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E. O. HALL & SON, LTD.

## GOOD FIGURES ONLY.

YOUNG WOMEN AS GARMENT AND ARTISTS' MODELS.

The Requirements of a Model in a Cloak-house—Hours of Work and Pay—Ballet Figurantes—Artists' Models—Posing For the Nude.

[Copyright, 1895, by the Author.]

Among the throngs of young workwomen crowding the business sections of every large city there are always some who attract particular notice by the striking beauty of their figures and the perfect fit of their close fitting gowns. It is easy for the city denizen familiar with all types to pick them out as cloak models.

The large wholesale houses where gowns, jackets and fur garments are sold employ them.

"It must be easy," thinks the pretty girl who is about to begin earning her own living, "just to stand in a big, comfortable salesroom and show off pretty clothes."

But it is not so easy. It is a well paid, fatiguing business with as many drawbacks as favorable conditions.

A goddesslike creature of 5 feet 10, or a perfectly formed little beauty of the shepherdess type, can never be a cloak model no matter how artistically correct her proportions may be. A figure of medium size or a little over is required. On such a model a large garment can be seen to advantage, as almost all ready made clothes are a little larger than medium size. This allows for alteration to a smaller figure, while the styles required for women of amazonian build must be made to order and cost proportionately more.

A cloak model should be about 5 feet 6 at most, have broad shoulders which she carries well, a bust of about 37 inches, a waist of about 28 and hips about 40. She cannot in the smallest degree be either too long waisted or short

MRS. E. K. HASKELL.

The Assistant Attorney General of Montana on Business and Politics.

A question I am often asked is how it is that I, a woman, can earn \$10,000 fees when so many of my sex, who are highly educated and energetic, are unable to earn a living and are being supported by others. People wonder if I am not different from other women, if my temperament and mentality are not unusual. I do not think so. For the information of these and others who may take an interest in the career of a woman who has made something of a success in life I will give some of the outlines of my beginnings. As a girl I had an ambition to acquire knowledge for its own sake. Dissatisfied with the education which I obtained in my country home, I commenced the study of Greek while teaching a little country school up among the hills of New Hampshire. I fitted for college under great disadvantages, but was able finally to enter Bates college at Lewiston, Me., in 1880. I paid my way through that institution, graduating with honor four years later, with the degree of B. A.

However, the study and the work necessary to secure the funds to pay the expenses of the course had broken down my health, and I was ill with nervous prostration for nearly a year and a half.

Convinced that a knowledge of law would be of great service to one in attending to one's own business affairs, I borrowed lawbooks and read them at first with this end only in view. Gradually, however, I became more and more absorbed in the study, and having obtained catalogues from the great law schools I took a regular course of reading. My funds failed me about this time, and I accepted a position as professor of rhetoric and elocution in an Iowa normal college. Three years later I came to Helena, where I continued to teach. Instead of a vacation, I spent my summer in a law office, and that decided me in



MRS. ELLA KNOWLES HASKELL.

waisted. Her hand must reach a little below her knee when sitting.

Out of her good salary of from \$15 to \$18 per week she must wear gowns which show her figure and are the perfection of style, generally tailor made, as this severe mode displays fully the graceful lines which enable her to earn a living.

She has to reach the big wholesale cloak house at half past 8 or possibly 9 o'clock, assist in getting the stock in order and be ready to see customers by 10. Sometimes a whole day is devoted to one purchaser, a large buyer from some other section of the country, and during the inspection our cloak model has to try on dozens of garments, revolve like a dummy so that all sides may be inspected and do her best to make the garments attractive by reason of her good carriage and her beauty of face, if she possesses this, as she frequently does.

This never ceasing putting on and taking off, revolving and pacing are extremely monotonous—more monotonous even than the selling at a counter where a thousand different faces come and go. The salesroom offers no variety, and the remarks of the one or two customers have a wearying similarity as garment after garment is criticised and disposed of.

Favorable points of the business are the short hours, as many of these houses have no work for the model after 5 o'clock during the week and frequently permit a more early departure on Saturdays. The salary is large compared with that earned by women in other occupations. While the work has a sameness that is wearying it permits of restful intervals and generally a decent amount of time for lunch. Other drawbacks sometimes met with are the close contact with the buyers necessary for the sale of a cloak. It is nothing for a man to take a model by the arm, turn her around and pass his hand over the garment when on her to assure himself of the smoothness of the fit. All this can be done in a way to give no offense, but sometimes the "fresh" man, who crops up at intervals in every large community, comes along and in some way turns the necessary familiarity into an insult.

However, the position of cloak model can be held successfully by any young woman fitted for it by nature, who is

selecting her career. Resigning my position, I was soon able to pass my examination and was admitted to the bar. Here arose an obstacle, however, which taxed my best efforts to surmount. Women were not allowed to practice, and I introduced and worked for a bill which after great opposition was passed, and I was permitted to put up my sign and appear in court as a full fledged attorney at law. I was the first and am the only woman lawyer in Montana. I have been unusually successful in my profession and have earned large fees. Whether I received the largest fee ever paid a woman lawyer I do not know. One was of \$10,000, and others were in the form of mining property the value of which I cannot give, but which is undoubtedly very valuable. In politics, while I have never sought office, I have received distinction. Four years ago I was nominated on the Populist ticket for attorney general, and it was three weeks after the election before it was known which candidate had been successful. My successful opponent appointed me his assistant, and I have held the office ever since. The general and I were married a little over a year ago. No such outcome of the matter was contemplated by either of us at the time of my appointment, I am sure.

This year I was elected a delegate to the Populist convention at St. Louis, being the first woman ever so honored in Montana. I am also a member of the national committee. In answer to numerous requests for advice on the subject, I will say that I think that the vocation of law is a good one for women who are willing to work early and late in the interests of their clients, and who will give attention to details, no matter how unimportant they may seem to be. A woman taking up the profession of law should have a logical and reasoning mind. She should have a good education and should have already learned the indispensable lesson of how to concentrate the entire mind force on the work in hand. She should also possess a good share of sound common sense.

With these qualifications a woman should succeed in law as well as a man, but when we think of the great number of men who never attain success we must not be surprised if women, bright and clever though they may be, should also fail. ELLA KNOWLES HASKELL.

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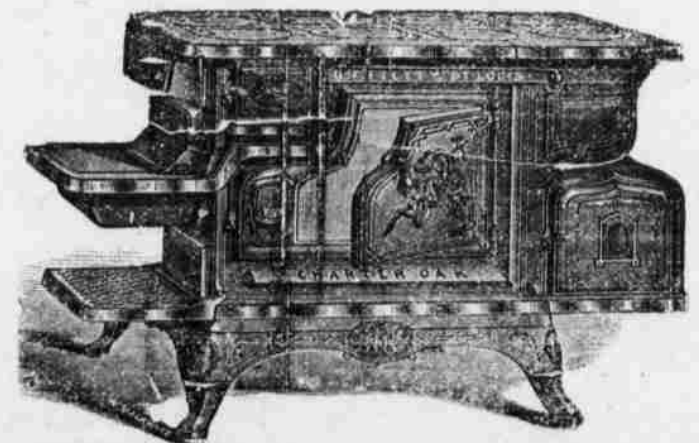
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